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**North Bay Tax Rate Set
at 61.5 Mills for 1941**

Despatches from North Bay say that if officials of the Ontario Department of Municipal Affairs approve figures submitted to them by North Bay City Council, the city's mill rate for 1941 will remain at the same level for the third successive year with an assessment of 61½ mills for Public School ratepayers and 67½ mills for Separate School taxpayers.

Meeting as a committee-of-the-whole with W. A. Orr, Northern Ontario representative for the Department of Municipal Affairs, Thursday night, city council concluded its current budget debate and struck what they hope to be the tax rate for the year. This rate will not be official however, until approved by the department at Toronto.

Estimates discussions started on February 24 and continued at meetings on February 26 and March 5 and 6. Mr. Orr sat in only briefly at the initial budget session but was present throughout the two concluding discussions. In 1940, only one estimate meet was necessary before the mill rate was struck.

Despite more lengthy debate this year, councillors reached an earlier decision than in 1940. A year ago, debate on the budget did not start until March 8, and a by-law officially proclaiming the mill rate was not passed until March 18.

In 1940 it took \$592,324 to run the city's affairs, during which time a mill in North Bay's financing produced \$9,425.

**Annual Father and Son
Banquet at United Church**

The boys of the Senior and Intermediate Sunday School of the Timmins United Church have invited their fathers to the annual Father and Son banquet to be held in the Church to-night at six-thirty. A programme of music and entertainment has been arranged. Mr. J. L. Murray, principal of the Timmins High and Vocational School, will be the guest speaker for the evening.

Telegram:—Germany might have a lack of fats but the chances are there is a surplus of fat-heads.

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**Win-the-War Plans
and Inventions are
Tested by Thousands**

In the first 18 months of the war substantially 20,000 inventions designed to aid England war cause were sent to the British Air Ministry and the Ministry of Aircraft Production. In a London broadcast, Dr. D. R. Pye, F.R.S., director of scientific research of the Ministry of Aircraft Production, said that the inventions have come from all over Britain, the Dominions and from abroad. At last accounts they "were pouring in at the rate of about 3,000 a week."

Every letter or memorandum was carefully recorded, filed and answered. For this work there were "some thirty scientists, engineers and technicians together with the necessary clerical staff which devoted its whole energies to sifting and analyzing the flood of ideas. In addition there was a distinguished scientist and engineer of long experience who acted as a referee in difficult cases."

"Wild, Fantastic" but "Pious Hopes" The ideas that came to mind says Dr. Pye, included every imaginable variety. Among them were the "wild and fantastic, the sensible but already well known and the interesting and unusual." The fantastic included the optimist who wanted to freeze the clouds and mount anti-aircraft guns upon them. There was also a wonderful helicopter, worked by a perpetual motion engine, for carrying searchlights, guns and men to immense heights. There were, too, many varieties of death rays. Most of these inventions were "pious hopes" which the inventor hoped the technical experts would turn to practical use.

"The most interesting group always was suggested by the need of the moment. A few months ago it was schemes for coping with the parachute, and just now it was how to tackle enemy bombers after dark. In most cases the proposals submitted were some variant of schemes which had been studied and experimented with for many months, or even years past. In such cases the most important thing to do was to see whether some new suggestion might not render a scheme practical which hitherto had not seemed worth while pursuing.

Dr. Pye recalled that nearly five years before the present war began an advisory committee of scientists was engaged in "helping us to foresee what would be needed if war should come and to provide against it."

"So it was only to be expected perhaps that a large number of ideas which are now being put forward should have been thought of before. Any of those which showed promise were developed and experimented with, tests and calculations were made and full-scale trials were often carried out."

**Dime Club Entertained
at Weekly Knitting Meet**

Mrs. Stevens of 27 Main avenue was hostess to the Dime Club knitters at the regular weekly get-together on Wednesday evening. About fifteen women were present, and besides knitting articles for the soldiers overseas, the members worked on patches for a quilt which will soon be sent overseas. The blanket to which the patches will be sewn was donated by Mrs. Taylor. Mrs. Rodda and Mrs. Taylor delighted in the gathering with piano selections, and Miss Hocking added to the entertainment with vocal solos. A dainty lunch was served by the hostess assisted by Mrs. Roy, and was followed by the collection of dimes for the Dime Box. The next meeting on Wednesday evening will take place at the home of Mrs. I. Webber, 30 Laurier avenue.

Dropped Between Stitches

By Ann

Proving that the Prospectors and Developers Association is definitely up-to-date . . . and also, that they know how to take advantage of a good opportunity . . . the Association has appointed two women to its board . . . they are Mrs. Mary Martin, of Kirkland Lake, who has many friends throughout this North Land, and Mrs. Viola MacMillan . . . the appointments were made at the recent annual meeting of the Association and congratulations will go from this mining camp to these two women . . . you'll remember that many men say "if only my wife could get hold of Hitler" . . . perhaps the members of the Association are remembering this, and hoping that the appointments will better prospecting conditions in Canada.

"We spent a quiet and pleasant Christmas," says a letter from Sweden received by Mrs. H. Shook recently, and these words will bring comfort to many Swedish people in this area who have not heard from their relatives in "the old country" for many months . . . letters are restricted as they have to pass through Germany, and many of them are not allowed to pass . . . the letter received by Mrs. Shook, was written in the latter part of January, and, although coming by airmail, was en route about one month . . . continuing, the letter says that there is no food shortage in Sweden, and describes the Christmas dinner which, among numerous other "goodies" contained a sixteen-lb. ham and "lutfish" (a dried codfish, eaten with milk sauce, and a Christmas ritual with people of Scandinavian climes).

The letter adds that there is a good supply of coffee, sugar, and fruit of all kind, except bananas, but cheerfully says that the people of Sweden have done without bananas before and they'll manage now . . . in explaining Mrs. Shook said that bananas are a favourite fruit to the Swedish people . . . she also mentioned that the first shipment of this fruit brought to Sweden, came in 1879 and that her great-uncle, master of his ship at the age of eighteen years, was captain of the ship which brought the cargo of bananas.

"We are not in want of anything," stresses the letter, "although a great part of the food is bought on cards" . . . there were the usual good times at Christmas, New Year's and twelfth night (Little Christmas) . . . everything is much the same in Sweden, although there are so many in uniform, and one must always be on guard . . . another point in the letter is that Sweden experienced a severe epidemic of influenza during this winter, but all in all, the people are happy and well-fed.

A few years ago, Agnes McPhail, at the time an M. P. spoke at the Timmins High and Vocational School, and although there have been many good speakers here since then, not one has been as fine a speaker as this woman . . . but in replacing Dr. Harry S. Thompson, field secretary of Canadian Dental Hygiene Council as speaker at the Kiwanis Inter-Club meeting and Ladies' night on Tuesday at the Empire Hotel, Mr. L. Murray, principal of the High and Vocational School gave an address that compares very favourably with Miss McPhail's . . . Mr. Murray was called upon to replace Dr. Thompson only on Tuesday afternoon, but his interesting notes on Turkey were given in an easy, well-chosen style, that marks a fine speaker . . . and along with the educational address, the clubs presented a pleasant programme, which featured some very talented artists . . . and in all, it was one of those evenings that will be remembered by all who attended.

As the Inter-Club meeting took the form of a Ladies' Night, the members proudly escorted their charming ladies . . . They were all especially attractive, and many of those present believe that it was due to the presence of the ladies that the evening was such a great success . . . perhaps they gave inspiration to their men.

Isn't it fun to have so many "good Irish" among the residents of the camp . . . especially when it gives all others an opportunity to celebrate St. Patrick's Day . . . some of the events which are planned for the week-end include a Bake Sale at the Style Shoppe Furriers by the Senior Catholics Women's League, the annual St. Patrick's Day Tea by the women of the United Church choir . . . and they'll look very Irish in their aprons and caps of green and white . . . and a social evening by the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion . . . all on Saturday . . . Sunday's celebration of the great day brings a concert by the McIntyre concert band, under the auspices of the Schumacher Lions' Club . . . Irish music will be featured; there will be guest soloists, and members of the band will give solo, duet and trio numbers . . . the event will take place at the McIntyre Community Hall . . . and on the 17th, to round out this fine week-end, there will be dancing at the Riverside Pavilion and at the McIntyre Community Building . . . advance note . . . get a few extra hours of rest before the week-end so that you can enjoy every minute of St. Patrick's Day.

From the war services committee of the Women's Institute comes an earnest appeal to the members to complete and to turn in at the monthly meeting next Wednesday, all the work which can possibly be done . . . the committee would appreciate the co-operation of every member, so that a shipment may be made in the very near future . . . and while speaking of the Women's Institute, this column tenders a sincere "thank-you" to Mrs. W. Rickard, who has very ably taken the duties of correspondent during the past months . . . Mrs. Rickard has been especially well-suited to this work, and her work is greatly appreciated . . . hope you'll be very happy in your new home at the Buffalo-Ankerite, Mrs. Rickard.

Another event scheduled for Saturday is the annual Library Tea to be given by the Library Club of the Timmins High and Vocational School, in the library from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. . . . the feature of the entertainment will be a display of books, and proceeds will be used in aid of the Club's Special Patriotic Fund . . . the library of the school, which is a fairly recent addition to its facilities, is a bright, cheery room which provides a fitting setting for an afternoon tea.

**Mrs. T. J. Carbone on the
Musical Chats Programme**

For the "Musical Chats" programme on Friday at 4.15 p.m., Mrs. T. J. Carbone will play the piano 1st number—"Nocturne in E flat major," by Chopin. 2nd number—"Simple Confession" by F. Thoma. 3rd number—"Second Movement of Beethoven's Sonata Pathétique."

"CANADA" . . . one word that symbolizes freedom, and brings pride in one's country . . . and that is the word that is beautifully carved into the wing cabinet which Mr. Dick Backhouse made and donated to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion . . . made of wood, the cabinet is a beautiful piece of work, and perhaps, when he draw for the winner is made, if you are a holder of a ticket, you may have this attractive piece of woodwork to adorn your home . . . while admiring the cabinet on Wednesday afternoon "Ann" also visited the regular "omfort Fund afternoon tea and knitting bee . . . how busily those members of the Auxiliary knitted away . . . it seems that every time, the "clackety-clack" of their needles becomes more rapid, and it takes no time for them to whizz through a pair of socks and other articles for the boys over there . . . no wonder they shipped another twenty-five parcels overseas yesterday . . . P.S.—the members believe in singing while they work! . . . and smiling cheerfully, tho!

"O Canada," "Colonel Bogey on Parade," "Finlandia," and "Orpheus" march were played by the Timmins Citizens Band at the concert in the Harmony Hall on Sunday evening, under the auspices of the Educational Society of the Consumers' Co-operative Society . . . it was definitely a concert for the Finnish members of the Society, with beautiful Finnish selections contributing the greater part of the programme, and with the selections by the band as a fitting background to other numbers.

Whatever our colonial peoples scattered and numerous as are their territories, they are one in their loyalty. The sacrifice of personal comfort involved in the contribution of large gifts for the purchase of spitfires and bombers is indeed a remarkable testimony to this loyalty. Contributions to Spitfire funds, indeed had their very origin in the colonies and they have set the fashion throughout the Empire. This remarkable liberality extends throughout the colonies; it is manifested in gifts by people of all classes by bodies and associations and by local legislatures. Nor is this liberality limited to the offer of material possessions. Our colonial peoples are equally ready to sacrifice person and life in the struggle. Were the equipment to be had, Britain could call up millions of fighters all eager to march against the totalitarian forces. They are under no illusions. They know that if their territory fell into German hands they themselves would indeed become helots and conscripts.

Whatsoever our shortcoming in colonial administration the progress that has been made in the development of liberal institutions and social services has long convinced the people of our colonies that no sacrifice is too great to ensure the victory of the Mother Country and the maintenance of these substantial benefits. The man-power resources of the colonies offer remarkable potentialities for war. Proof of the willingness to serve is afforded by the fact that there is no need to apply compulsory service to the indigenous populations. The Government cannot accept all the offers made and the calls upon colonial manpower locally have been adequately met.

To mention only the Air Arm—there is now a steady and increasing flow of recruits from the colonies trained as pilots, officers, gunners and technicians of all kinds. But for the problem of finding sufficient equipment—rifles, Bren guns, mechanized vehicles—there would be no limit to the use of this man-power for forming new combat units. It is gratifying to know that the colonies are at least getting their share of new equipment on the basis of a scientific program of expansion.

Already large numbers of West and East African native troops are engaged on the Kenya and Somali fronts. Among these are the Gold Coast Regiment, a unit of the R. W. A. F. F., which had the honour of being the unit which fired the first shot in the Great war of 1914-18. Already too, pioneer units have been raised from Cyprus, Palestine, Malta, Aden, Mauritius and the Seychelles. In Hong-Kong and in Malaya, where the local defence force are an essential part of the garrison, compulsory service legislation was, of course, enacted some time ago. In Ceylon and Fiji local volunteer forces have been expanded. Cypriots and Maltese have enlisted in large numbers into local units for the defence of their islands. In the West Indies combatant units could have been raised had it been regarded as likely that the West Indies would have become an active theatre of war.

Thus, in material contributions in the shape of gifts, both in money and in kind and in man-power, whether for industrial or military activities, the war effort of our colonies is a striking enough answer to German gibes about their loyalty. Only a few days ago the State Council of Kedah marked the 79th anniversary of its Sultan's birthday by setting aside \$1,000,000, towards the cost of emergency defence measures. Incidents like this are continually happening.

But there remains the economic sphere, a sphere in which the colonies are rendering most vital service. At the outset colonial trading was put on a war time basis. An elaborate machinery for control and regulations was

set up to prevent colonial products from reaching the enemy ports and conversely to ensure essential supplies reaching Britain and her allies—while another vital purpose of this machinery is the maintenance of foreign exchange resources which is affected by limiting imports payable in foreign exchange and by preventing the transfer of capital into foreign currency.

All these objectives involve colonial traders in much inconvenience and loss trials which they have borne with great goodwill and patience because they recognized that they are essential contributions to an effective war-effort. To some extent their loss has been mitigated by the Government's policy of buying at a fair price large quantities of goods— even far more than the Government requires or can sell—e. g. cocoa, oil seeds, sisal, and bananas; but it is a policy of compromise which keeps colonial trading on something like an even keel.

It might be supposed that having made pecuniary gifts totalling the best part of £20,000,000 and sustained widespread trading losses that the colonies had shot their bolt. Who can fail to be impressed by the magnificent contributions to the Ministry of Air-Craft Production for the purchase of bombers and fighters—which will take the air bearing their proud colonial names?

Yet, notwithstanding this plethora of generosity, the colonies have responded magnificently to the needs of England's bombed civilians and actually contributed within a few days the splendid sum of £70,000 for mobile canteens. The first of these was bringing succor to hard-hit Coventry within a few hours of that city's ordeal. Some colonies are furnishing a whole fleet of canteens and, when all are in operation the names of colonies or provinces or towns of colonial dependencies will become as familiar as nursery rhymes to our men, women and children, serving to remind them of the kinship of their nationals overseas.

**How the Far Parts
of Empire are
Helping Win War**

(By Athelston Ridgway in the Empire Review (London).)

In the British colonial empire of some 50 dependencies covering two million square miles, there are sixty people of all races and creeds. Seen through the distorting mirrors of Goebbels' propagandist machines these people are where helots and conscripts tied to the remorseless British war chariot.

If this were a true picture of our colonies we might look in vain for their willing or effective support from them in this or in any other war. Down-trodden conscripted helots are not likely to make spontaneous gifts to the "Mother Country" or to make any other kind of voluntary personal sacrifices for the better prosecution of her wars unless they regarded those wars as their own. Yet these "down-trodden" millions have contributed sums amounting in all to nearly £18,000,000.

The Aden Arab who gave money to buy cement "to mend King George's house", clearly holds independent views on the validity of Goebbels' picture. The children of Nchanga, in Northern Rhodesia, who gave up their Christmas toys for the benefit of London's bombed-out children, have also supplied their commentary. We might multiply instances almost indefinitely, not only of gifts but of readiness to risk both life and person—the Cypriot soldier who served in France and the Cypriot transport company which carried our infantry forward to the initial attack on Bardia the score of Maltese sailors who went down in the Royal Oak, the West Indians and Africans who are clamouring to serve in British combat units—each and all are convincing answers to Goebbels' libel.

Diverse as our colonial peoples scattered and numerous as are their territories, they are one in their loyalty. The sacrifice of personal comfort involved in the contribution of large gifts for the purchase of spitfires and bombers is indeed a remarkable testimony to this loyalty. Contributions to Spitfire funds, indeed had their very origin in the colonies and they have set the fashion throughout the Empire. This remarkable liberality extends throughout the colonies; it is manifested in gifts by people of all classes by bodies and associations and by local legislatures. Nor is this liberality limited to the offer of material possessions. Our colonial peoples are equally ready to sacrifice person and life in the struggle. Were the equipment to be had, Britain could call up millions of fighters all eager to march against the totalitarian forces. They are under no illusions. They know that if their territory fell into German hands they themselves would indeed become helots and conscripts.

Whatever our shortcoming in colonial administration the progress that has been made in the development of liberal institutions and social services has long convinced the people of our colonies that no sacrifice is too great to ensure the victory of the Mother Country and the maintenance of these substantial benefits. The man-power resources of the colonies offer remarkable potentialities for war. Proof of the willingness to serve is afforded by the fact that there is no need to apply compulsory service to the indigenous populations. The Government cannot accept all the offers made and the calls upon colonial manpower locally have been adequately met.

To mention only the Air Arm—there is now a steady and increasing flow of recruits from the colonies trained as pilots, officers, gunners and technicians of all kinds. But for the problem of finding sufficient equipment—rifles, Bren guns, mechanized vehicles—there would be no limit to the use of this man-power for forming new combat units. It is gratifying to know that the colonies are at least getting their share of new equipment on the basis of a scientific program of expansion.

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All these objectives involve colonial traders in much inconvenience and loss trials which they have borne with great goodwill and patience because they recognized that they are essential contributions to an effective war-effort. To some extent their loss has been mitigated by the Government's policy of buying at a fair price large quantities of goods— even far more than the Government requires or can sell—e. g. cocoa, oil seeds, sisal, and bananas; but it is a policy of compromise which keeps colonial trading on something like an even keel.

It might be supposed that having made pecuniary gifts totalling the best part of £20,000,000 and sustained widespread trading losses that the colonies had shot their bolt. Who can fail to be impressed by the magnificent contributions to the Ministry of Air-Craft Production for the purchase of bombers and fighters—which will take the air bearing their proud colonial names?

**Transport Drivers and
Firms Work for Safety**

Additional evidence of the fitness of the motor trucking industry to serve the country equally as effectively in war as in peace is to be found in the high record of safety revealed at the annual "Safe Drivers" banquet, sponsored by the Ontario Safety League, held recently in Toronto. Three thousand of these men, who bring the morning milk to your door or who transport highly important war materials with smooth despatch from one centre to another, had been selected for awards of merit symbolizing their contribution to highway safety. Fifteen hundred of them crowded the huge banquet hall to receive these tangible evidences of the thorough manner in which they do their job and to hear Highways Minister McQueen state he had not had occasion to pass a bus or truck driver on the highways "who was not a perfect gentleman."

While all credit is due these "knights of the road", it should not be overlooked that the truck transport firms themselves deserve a feather in their caps, for they selected the best type of men it was possible to obtain, saw to it that they were given sound training as drivers with the emphasis always on safety and courtesy, and provided them with modern, safe equipment.

One only needs to look at recent happenings in Libya and other North African territories to realize what an important part mechanized units are playing in modern warfare. And with this thought in mind, it is comforting to reflect that Ontario and Canada have this corps of well-trained truck driving specialists who could be converted into just as important cops in the war machine as they are in the civilian prosecution of Canada's war effort. Meantime, they are an indispensable factor in the daily movement of foods and materials so essential to the nation's welfare.

These men honored by the Ontario Safety League, each with from one to eight years' accident-free driving to his credit, are a credit to their trade. They have rolled up the stupendous total of 162,735,000 miles of driving without mishap. These are the men whom the general public can look to not only for the preservation of life and property but for the daily performance of needed truck transport services with the utmost of efficiency. More power to them!

**Swastika to Have Only New
Public Building This Year**

According to the answer to a question asked in the Ontario Legislature this week, the only new public building to be erected by the province of Ontario this year is to be at Swastika. The building is to serve as an office for the Swastika division of the Dept. of Highways. The estimated cost of the building is given as \$10,000.

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**Famous Boy
Violinist to be
Here Next Week**

(Continued From Page One)

famous Helsinki orchestra things began to happen at a thrilling speed and from that date on Heimo's life story reads like a fiction with joy and tragedy alternating with rapid succession.

WINS AWARD AT 13
In May 1939 Heimo Haitto went to London with his foster father to participate in the international competition of the British Council of Music. Although Heimo was only thirteen years old, the youngest of all competitors he won—the biggest musical award in the world.

Upon the triumphant return to Finland a concert was arranged for him in the largest hall of Helsinki and those who were fortunate in getting inside listened as if enchanted and agreed that the Finnish violinist had met its young master.

From the concert stage Heimo was taken into filmland and starred in a musical film "Pikku Pellimanni" ("Little Fiddler") where he again amazed the world by showing exceptional talents not only as a violinist but as an actor as well.

Invitations from abroad started to come and took him to Sweden and Norway where he appeared as soloist with the Stockholm Symphony Orchestra and the Malmo and Oslo Philharmonic Orchestras. In all of these cities Heimo created a sensation.

Heimo's triumphant path was momentarily cut off by tragedies resulting from Russo-Finnish war. His real father and brother went to war never to be heard from again and his mother and sister disappeared in the panic caused by one of the many air attacks Finland suffered during the war. One day while Heimo was busy studying in the Conservatory a general air alarm was given. When the sirens were shrieking Heimo grabbed his violin under his arm and scurried for shelter. The thunder of heavy explosives could be heard, but was nothing unusual. Heimo was already used to it. But he got excited after discovering that in the hurry he had taken the wrong violin and left his treasured \$20,000 masterpiece behind. When an all clear signal was given and worried Heimo went to the street he saw to his terror that there was no more Conservatory, only smoky ruins left. With the conservatory his dear violin had gone into splinters.

PLAYS FOR FINLAND
These tragedies were only temporary set-backs. Heimo and his foster father embarked on a series of benefits concerts both in Finland and abroad, arriving to the United States last year. Altogether Heimo has raised for the Finnish relief about \$80,000 of which \$22,000 in the United States. The interest of the public in relieving the suffering in war-torn Finland was soon overshadowed by the tragedies of world war, but Heimo's musical career continues to draw the attention of music lovers throughout the country. Heimo made his big time debut with the Philadelphia Orchestra under the leadership of Eugene Ormandy. His appearance in Philadelphia was followed by successful concerts throughout the country. In the near future a motion picture produced by the Paramount in Hollywood, "Hardboiled Canary" ("There's Magic in Music") will be released. In this picture Heimo Haitto not only plays violin but also conducts an orchestra of one hundred pieces.

That is the story of Heimo Haitto—the wonder child of Finland. His success is by no means an accident. He is a hardworking boy. He practices long hours each day under his foster father, himself an accomplished violinist, conductor and teacher. To professor Sirpo goes the credit for the accomplishments of his phenomenal young student. Professor Sirpo possesses highly treasured recommendation from his friend the great Jean Sibelius, who also writes to him: "We have all here enjoyed over the exceptional success young Heimo has had on the other side of the Atlantic and we wish you both the best of everything".

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**First Aid Featured by
Nursing Division S. J. A. B.**

General practice in first aid was featured at the weekly meeting of the Nursing Division S. J. A. B. on Monday evening in the St. John Ambulance Hall, when, directed by Mrs. Geof. Morris, the members were taught the valuable points to remember in first aid work.

Circulation of the blood was studied and the members learned how to stop bleeding from pressure points. After the study, the members discussed general business, the chief item of interest being the plans for the purchase of uniforms.

The group will meet as usual on Monday evening in the S. J. A. B. hall.

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and Have a Driver Call.